



Governor's E-Newsletter

February 22-28, 2003



Aloha and Welcome from the Governor's Office in Hawai'i!

It is with pleasure that we send you this e-newsletter.

Aloha from the governor's office in Hawai'i.

Governor Linda Lingle returned to Honolulu after a successful trip to Washington, D.C., where she participated in the National Governors Association/Republican Governors Association conferences and met with President Bush as well as members of his administration to discuss national and Hawai'i-related issues. The Governor also spent three days in the Big Apple, where she discussed Hawai'i's bond rating with the financial community and met with New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Major Headlines

Governor Lingle Caps Off Successful Trip to Mainland

Governor Lingle concluded a nine-day visit to our nation's political and financial centers, where she promoted Hawai'i and met with fellow governors and national government leaders. In Washington, D.C., Governor Lingle participated in the National Governors Association meeting to discuss issues such as Medicaid reform, early childhood education, transportation, and health-care. The Governor also met with President Bush and members of his administration to address issues such as Hawai'i's homeland security, drug abuse, agricultural development, the environment, and the economy. In addition, Governor Lingle led a group of Hawaiian leaders in testifying before Congress on a bill to provide recognition to native Hawaiians. In New York City, Governor Lingle met with Standard & Poor's, Moody's, Fitch Ratings, and UBW PaineWebber to discuss Hawai'i's bond rating. The Governor met with New York Stock Exchange President Bob Britz and other NYSE senior executives and toured the stock exchange floor. The Governor also visited with Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Governor Lingle was a popular guest with the national media, appearing live on CNN's "Inside Politics," Fox News Live and "The O'Reilly Factor" to speak on various topics including fiscal and economic issues, homeland security, and Hawai'i's role in the world community.

Governor Lingle Meets with Homeland Security Secretary Ridge

Governor Lingle met with Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge to discuss the possibility of establishing a homeland security headquarters in Hawai'i for the U.S. Pacific territories to take advantage of state's strategic location and active military presence. Despite his very busy schedule, the former Governor of Pennsylvania and Governor Lingle spent one-hour together at his new Washington, D.C. homeland security facility.

Governor Lingle Testifies on Native Hawaiian Recognition

Governor Lingle appeared before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to testify in support of a bill to grant native Hawaiians federal recognition as an indigenous people. The Governor was joined by

Department of Hawaiian Homelands Director Micah Kane, Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, Office of Hawaiian Affairs trustees, and other Native Hawaiian leaders to encourage passage of the bill. "It is time to set a new course in Hawaii and extend this federal policy of self-determination and self-governance to the Native Hawaiian people," said Governor Lingle. [Read the complete text of the Governor's testimony on her website.](#)

In the News

Governor Appears Live on CNN's "Inside Politics with Judy Woodruff"
Governor Lingle went "On the Record" with CNN's Judy Woodruff during her first visit to Washington as Hawaii's governor. [Read the transcript online at CNN.com.](#)

Governor Lingle Meets with Governors from Across the Nation
Governor Lingle shares her thoughts on this year's Winter Meeting of the National Governors Association held February 22-25 in Washington, D.C. [Listen to the audio clip online.](#)

Upcoming Events

March 3 Read Across America Joining thousands of volunteers around the nation, Governor Lingle will read to children at three Hawai'i schools to promote literacy and celebrate the joys of reading during National Education Association Read Across America Week.

March 4 Governor Lingle will speak at the Pacific Islands Environmental Criminal Enforcement Conference. The conference will launch the opening the EPA's Pacific Rim Environmental Enforcement Resource Center, which will provide resources and training for environmental crimes prevention and enforcement in the Pacific region.

Quote of the Week: *"I guess my feeling is, generally, any money that the public gets to keep in its own pocket is good."* -- Governor Linda Lingle, *commenting on the President's tax plan during her appearance on CNN's "Inside Politics" with Judy Woodruff.*